

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UN, GW

SUBJECT: DISPUTE OVER GENSCHER PROPOSAL FOR UN HUMAN
RIGHTS COURT

1. NEGATIVE COMMENTS BY SPD BUNDESTAG DEPUTY KURT
MATTICK, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE BUNDESTAG FOREIGN
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, ABOUT THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A UN
HUMAN RIGHTS COURT, HAVE ANGERED FOREIGN MINISTER
GENSCHER AND HIS FDP COLLEAGUES. MATTICK, SPEAKING ON
AUGUST 2 AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON CYPRUS, MADE CRITICAL
REMARKS ABOUT THE GENSCHER PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A UN
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HUMAN RIGHTS COURT. ALLEGEDLY, MATTICK SAID THE

GENSCHER PROPOSAL HAD LITTLE CHANCE FOR SUCCESS AND IMPLIED THAT IT WAS A GRANDSTAND GESTURE BY THE FDP CHAIRMAN.

2. FDP POLITICIANS WERE PARTICULARLY DISTURBED BY THE IMPLICATION THAT THE COURT PROPOSAL WAS GENSCHER'S ALONE. NOT ONLY WAS THE PROPOSAL PART OF THE FDP ELECTION PLATFORM AGREED TO AT THE "BUNDESPARTEITAG" IN MAY, BUT THE UN COURT PROPOSAL WAS ALSO APPROVED BY THE FEDERAL CABINET.

3. THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION WAS QUICK TO SEIZE UPON THE DISPUTE AMONG THE COALITION PARTNERS AND DESCRIBED IT AS A DEMONSTRATION OF THE LACK OF UNITY IN THE SOCIAL/ LIBERAL GOVERNMENT. MATTICK CAN ON OCCASION BE ICONOCLASTIC, AND IS NOT ABOVE MAKING SUCH STATEMENTS. HILLENBRAND

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